

Tikka by Johnny McKnight

📅 Wed, 2/10 2:13PM ⌚ 12:45

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

soup, talk, scaly, janice, run, robbie, kaylee, love, courage, understand, duck, anymore, sexual frustration, mcknight, kotlin, tropicana, avoid, failover, episode, ross

SPEAKERS

Alexa, Robbie, Maw, Tron Creative, Danny Krass, Him

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- D** Danny Krass 00:00
Hi, my name's Danny Krass. Welcome to Earwig. This is a sonic theatre podcast specifically designed for listening on headphones. For today's episode we present Tikka by Johnny McKnight, performed by Robbie Jack and Ann Louise Ross. Directed by Finn den Hertog with additional sound editing by Shaun Clark. All other music and production by me, Danny Krass. So here it is; Tikka by Johnny McKnight.
 - M** Maw 01:15
Thing is, no' everybody likes a curry.
 - H** Him 01:18
He does.
 - M** Maw 01:19
Yer Dad hates it.
 - H** Him 01:21
I'm not cooking for Dad, am I?

- M** Maw 01:23
And curries, re-peat on ye.
- H** Him 01:25
Repeat, no "re-peat" mum.
- M** Maw 01:27
Either way- yer arse'll be on fire. Whereas a pot of soup- you can't go wrong wi' a pot o' soup.
- H** Him 01:33
If it's summer ye can.
- M** Maw 01:35
Janice doon the road loves ma soup...
- H** Him 01:38
Does she..
- M** Maw 01:38
...and she's got an eating disorder, except when it comes to my soup.
- H** Him 01:43
Right?
- M** Maw 01:44
If you're thinking, 'oh, that way to a man's heart is through his...' it's a loada rubbish. Men'll eat ooty a pishy poke.
- H** Him 01:51

Thank you for the pep talk- much appreciated. At the end of the day, I'm just a guy standing in front of a guy...



Maw 02:17

Good idea- terrify the poor boy by telling him you love him, before you've even got off wi' him.



Him 02:23

I have got off wi' him. Once. I think. Mean, we were pretty drunk but... I'm sure we...



Maw 02:32

The thing is; naebody's sayin' yer fat, but if you died tomorrow, we'd struggle to find enough men in the family tae carry the coffin.



Him 02:41

Well can you and Auntie Gill no' help carry it then?



Maw 02:44

Very good. How're we supposed to carry a coffin and a handbag? Maybe wait a few weeks 'till you've lost the beef.



Him 02:51

I look good.



Maw 02:53

Oh, nothing like havin' a ticket on yersel'!



Him 02:57

Alright, well maybe not "good". Fine. I look fine.

- M** Maw 03:04
Big Gordon said he saw you in town. Never recognized you because of the size of ye'. But that's the thing wi' soup. There's hardly any calories in it. It's just vegetables and stock cubes. Sure, Janice was living on four Oxos a day and she managed to run roon' the block with the Avon catalogue- full o' energy, she was. Up till she had that wee episode and collapsed in the Co-op; but that was months after the fact. I was sayin' to your Dad, it's just a shame no man got tae experience ye when you were at your peak.
- H** Him 03:42
[Phone buzzes] No, not now, Maw. I need to concentrate.
- M** Maw 03:46
Ye' need tae phone. Ye've no' phoned me in weeks.
- H** Him 03:50
It's not been weeks.
- M** Maw 03:51
TWO weeks. That's weeks.
- H** Him 03:54
I've been busy.
- M** Maw 03:55
Ah, busy my arse. Yer avoiding phoning me in case I tell you this is a mistake.
- H** Him 04:03
I like you, Robbie. I mean, I mean, I've always liked you 'cause like, that's why we're pals, but recently things have felt ... different. And well, I don't know if it's..
- M** Maw 04:15

Desparation. That's what it is.

H Him 04:17
Actually no, no, it's not that.

M Maw 04:19
Or...

H Him 04:20
And it's not sexual frustration either. Definitely not 'cause I've been wanking way more than normal. Some days nothing comes oot, just literally a puff of air.

M Maw 04:27
Oh for God's sake.

H Him 04:29
But now, this; these ... feelings. They're totally measured. Insane. Yeah, I'm as surprised as you are 'cause I never saw this coming, but... I don't think we're just friends. Anymore. Not after this year, the Friday film and cocktail nights and the Saturdays stoatin' about hungover.

M Maw 04:53
Should have water before you go to bed, or drink less. You drink too much.

H Him 04:59
I've liked it. Liked us.

M Maw 05:01
Don't say "us". There isnae an us. It's you and him. Ye'll have him doin' a Julie Andrews an' running for the hills.



Him 05:12

And even though we sit there and we talk about aw those things we wish we could be doing: goin' oot to the dancin, arms flailin' in the air tae Kylie. And okay so I know you wouldnae choose Kylie, which should be a black mark against you because somebody's incapable of deep affection for the Antipodean pop-princess shows a deeply unevolved dark-hearted soul and..



Maw 05:34

Olive oil- ye need tae get olive oil.



Him 05:39

Alexa, olive oil to shopping list- oh, and Tropicana.



Alexa 05:43

I'm sorry- I don't understand that.



Him 05:46

Alexa, olive oil and Tropicana to shopping list.



Alexa 05:51

I'm sorry, I don't understand that.



Maw 05:54

They're racist, those things. They kid on they canny hear ye. There's a posh man in Coventry laughin' his heed aff at aw'y us tryin' tae sound like we're off The Crown in order for it tae understand us.



Him 06:00

I don't know where this's come from. All these...



Maw 06:07

Or the government. It'll be the government. If Alexa canny understand us, what hooe will international countries have?



Him 06:13

It's like ma mouth that runs away says stuff to you that's not true. I don't fancy him off Masterchef, course I don't- ah just say it to see if you react. Only you don't.



Maw 06:27

That's tae stop us getting independence. I mean, who do you know called Alexa, bar him fae Dynasty?



Him 06:29

And saying I wish we could go to the gay chippy so I could try to get off wi' that kind of hot guy with a skelly-eye behind the counter- that's lies too. I hate skelly eyes. Well no, I don't hate them 'cause that makes me sound like some sort of disablist.



Maw 06:39

Actually, he was Alexis.



Him 06:40

I want to be here. With you. Just us.



Maw 06:49

The two are not an "us".



Him 06:51

'Cause this bubble thing we've had is ... well it's gonna burst, eventually. And I'll have missed my moment. I'll have let it go. Like Elsa.



Maw 07:03

You chose him to bubble with. Not me, not us.

H Him 07:08
I know.

M Maw 07:09
And ye've stopped phonin'. Stopped the Zoom quiz. I said he could come and do them with us.

H Him 07:15
It would have been weird.

M Maw 07:16
Weird?

H Him 07:18
Too much.

M Maw 07:19
You mean me? Ah'm too much? So I just have to sit the hoose aw year- highlight o' the week being mad-fuckin'-Janice is comin' over to scrounge some bloody soup. That's it. That's my lot?

H Him 07:33
You've got dad! Someone to moan to. To call a useless waste o' space. To ask to pass the remote control. To moan about breathin' like an asthmatic greyhound. Tae cuddle intae at night. And I don't! But.. but I think... maybe. May...be... I could have.

M Maw 08:01
Well ah wouldnae mention the wee lassie fae Frozen. That's an erection-deflection that. Just tell 'im. Dinny do all yer avoidin' pish.

H Him 08:16

I don't avoid...

M Maw 08:18
Any difficult conversation, you run in the opposite direction. It's why you're no' phonin' me, 'cause you know I'll tell you this is a mistake. You tell him and he disnae feel the same, ye've lost a good pal. Ye've bawsed it right up. You know I'd tell you straight.

H Him 08:36
You can't say that anymore Maw, "I'll tell you straight"- it's homophobic.

M Maw 08:39
Ah, there you are, doing it again. Avoidin'. I'll tell you exactly how the night plays oot: Ye eat dinner. He'll see it tastes good.

H Him 08:50
It might not. I think I might have overdone the garam masala.

M Maw 08:53
You'll not take the complement. And instead talk pish about spices. You'll notice you've no ate. Ye canny, because you're up to high doh, so then you'll pour drinks, thinkin' it's gonny gi' ye courage to say it- but it won't. It'll just distract. And then you load up the dishwasher. Suggest a film, and you'll spend the next two hours slagging off whatever crap you have picked. Deflectin'. And the whole time your gut will be goin' like a washing machine. And then you'll think, right, I'm drunk enough. I can say it. But ye don't. Next week, I'll tell him next week. Only you won't. You'll go through all this Ross and Rahel pish for the next few months.

H Him 09:43
Rachel- it was Ross and Rachel.

M Maw 09:45
And by the time you do pluck up the courage, know where he'll be? With somebody else.

'Cause the boy's no' a mind-reader. And you - well, you're cold wi' all that emotion stuff.

H Him 09:58
I'm not cold.

M Maw 09:59
Yer cold, hard to read, guarded.

H Him 10:03
I'm no'.

M Maw 10:04
You bloody are. Yer ma boy. Soon as he's through that door- you say it.

H Him 10:12
You think?

M Maw 10:14
That way, it all goes Tits-McGee, he's already got his jaiket on and you've no' had tae dirty any dinner plates.

H Him 10:21
And I'm supposed to listen to you? You call me fat.

M Maw 10:25
You are fat.

H Him 10:26
You don't think I know that?

M Maw 10:28
And while we're on the subject, why do you bother wearing trainers? The only place I've seen you run tae is the reduced aisle in Asda. You tell him, "you've been ma best pal..."

H Him 10:42
You've been my best pal.. no, no- one of my best pals. Naw, otherwise it's like 'Heeey, ah need you for everything.'

M Maw 10:49
Yer my best pal....

H Him 10:51
...one of my best pals and I think that is a good place for us to start. Then maybe we could be more than just, um....

R Robbie 11:02
Ach, ye've no' started watching it without me, have ye?

H Him 11:05
Of course not. Oh here, you should have seen the state o'....

M Maw 11:08
Oh no, ye don't. You say it.

H Him 11:10
...the medical fellow we hate on the One Show the night- aw, his haire was like...

M Maw 11:13
Say it.

-  Him 11:14
I was gonny screenshot it and send it to you but didnae 'cause I thought, well I'd wait and see you first and then we'd have curry and...
-  Maw 11:19
Say it. Say it.
-  Him 11:19
Oh, I mean.... I guess...
-  Maw 11:23
Say it.
-  Him 11:24
Not everyone likes curry. But I do. I really like it. Just like... I like...
-  Maw 11:39
Naw...not like.
-  Him 11:41
Naw, not.. not like...
-  Maw 11:45
Love.
-  Him 11:49
I love...
-  Maw 11:52
Come on, son.



Him 11:54

I... . I.... love.... you. I'm in love with you. I made this for you because.... I love you. And I figured it's best to tell you now before I have to dirty any more plates.



Tron Creative 11:54

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